



N.O.W. News

Vol. 46 No. 4

Winter 2008



Season's Greetings

Numismatists of Wisconsin

is incorporated in the state of Wisconsin as a non-stock nonprofit tax exempt corporation.

Contributions are tax deductible

The objective of Numismatists of Wisconsin is to encourage and promote interest in numismatics, to cultivate friendly relations between Wisconsin coin collectors and Wisconsin coin clubs, and to encourage and assist new numismatic hobbyists. All resources of the organization shall be used to further these objectives. Dues are \$10 per year and entitles participants to NOW News, this quarterly publication. Among the services offered are coin authentication, a Speaker's Bureau, show calendar coordination and guidelines to assist coin clubs hosting the annual NOW convention.

Numismatists of Wisconsin holds Life Memberships in the American Numismatic Association and Central States Numismatic Society.

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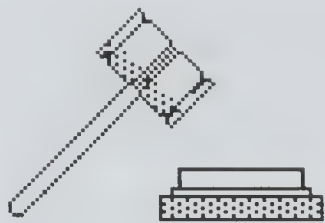
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NOW News Deadlines

February 1, May 1, August 1 and November 1

website www.numismatistsofwisconsin.org



President's Message

by Thad Streeter

Hello Numismatists of Wisconsin. I missed the last issue of NOW News due to not getting my stuff in on time. You know how it is with editors, no matter who you are, they make all the decisions and have the final say. So, it's my own darn fault that I was late and I will do my best not to let that happen again. Just like when you are looking at pictures and want to see the ones that you are in first, I always like to see how what I wrote looks like once it's in print.

We recently had a Board of Governors meeting in Sheboygan Falls and there is some news that I would like to share with you. First of all, a thank you to Ed Rautmann and the Sheboygan Coin Club for getting us the space we needed to hold our meeting at their show site. You couldn't beat the security at that show -- the show was held in the Municipal Center, the same building that houses the Police Department.

Second, a thank you to outgoing Governor Hank Thoele for service rendered to our organization. He needed to resign his position on the Board due to work commitments.

Third, a thank you goes out to Ken Muelling of Mosinee. Ken has been a NOW member for some time now and has accepted appointment to complete Hank's term as Governor and also has accepted nomination to serve an upcoming full term. Ken will be a great addition to our Board of Governors and I look forward to serving with him.

The other thing that I would like to touch on is the opportunity open to NOW members to serve our club in leadership capacities. Every year we have terms of Officers or Governors that expire and are open to be

filled. The membership is welcome to accept nomination for those positions. Please let us know if you are able to serve, we will be more than happy to give you that opportunity.

That's all the news for now. Best wishes for a Blessed Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

Thad

NOW Speakers



In order to assist coin clubs throughout Wisconsin, NOW has established a "Speaker's Bureau".

The following Board members have volunteered to visit coin clubs in their area and speak on one of their favorite numismatic topics.

- Bill Brandimore (Wausau area)
715-842-5015
Fractional Currency, Wisconsin Nationals and Wisconsin Territorial
- Thad Streeter (Wausau area)
920-235-8808
Currency & over-all collecting
- Fred Borgmann (Iola area)
715-445-2214
Military Medals (US & German)
Casino Tokens
- Tom Casper (Milwaukee area)
414-321-5292
Milwaukee Exonumia
Love Tokens
Savings Bonds

If your club would like to invite one of these speakers to attend one of your meetings, contact the speaker directly and work out details with him.

If you have a favorite numismatic subject and would like to be included on our Speakers List, please notify the Editor and indicate what subject you would like to talk about.

NOW Launches Internet Website

www.numismatistsofwisconsin.com

[by Leon Saryan #100L]

NOW has launched its new professionally-constructed and managed internet website, www.numismatistsofwisconsin.com. Under development for about one year, the website remains a project in process. Its principal purpose, like that of all NOW activities and programs, is to educate people about money and numismatics. Hopefully, members with computer internet access should find this site useful and informative. Through the website, we plan to keep you informed about NOW and local Wisconsin club activities, provide useful information and links pertaining to coins and currency that can be used by the general public, and attract new members.

The website currently includes tabs for ANA News, Coin Club News, BookNook, What's New, schedules for local coin club meetings and local shows, and a downloadable membership application form. There are also interesting articles including the President's Message and other worthwhile items, and this will be augmented in the future. We have also added several color photos of numismatic activities around the state (thanks especially to Norm and Adele Vogel, and our Florida members, John and Nancy Wilson).

In the near future we hope to add links to other numismatic organizations (such as ANA and CSNS) as well as links to the e-mail addresses of the NOW officers and governors. Members and readers of NOW News are encouraged to visit www.numismatistsofwisconsin.com often, and make constructive suggestions for enhancements and improvements (and corrections if the information is inaccurate). We especially need digital photographs of club activities in the western

part of the state (Madison and points north and west). When sending photos, please be sure to include information such as the date, event, and names of other persons depicted.

For the present, the website will serve as an adjunct to NOW News as a means of communicating our membership. In the coming years, we are looking forward to enhancing the website as a method of outreach to our current and potential members. Our hope is to make the site informative and user-friendly.

The NOW Board of Governors has appointed Governor Leon Saryan to serve as the liaison to the webmaster. Comments, suggestions, corrections, photo files, or material intended for www.numismatistsofwisconsin.com should be funneled through Leon by e-mail at LASaryan@aol.com.

Be sure to visit www.numismatistsofwisconsin.com often and bookmark the site for future reference.

* * *

Vote For the Best

Each year the articles published in NOW News are voted on by NOW members and winners receive cash awards donated by the South Shore Coin Club, the Wisconsin Coin Expos and the Milwaukee Numismatic Society.

Please vote for your favorite 3 articles. A ballot is included in this issue.

The purpose of our writer's awards is to encourage members to submit numismatic articles that they have written.

If you have written a numismatic article, why not send it to the Editor and share your story with our readers -- maybe you'll win one of the cash prizes next year.



Replicas of Obsolete Notes

Many times throughout the year the ANA receives phone calls from individuals inquiring about the origin and value of obsolete notes, which predominately date from the 1770s to the 1860s. Most are amazed at our skill in providing the serial number once we are given the date. Amazement fades to dismay when they are informed that “grandpa’s heirloom” is actually a cheap imitation produced some 30 years ago.

Often they offer a fainthearted comment about the authentic appearance of the yellowed notes. We explain that these replicas are printed on paper that has been chemically treated to give it an antique parchment-like look. The replicas usually are printed on paper that is crisp and wavy, with a tan color and browned edges.

Thousands of replica notes were produced prior to the Hobby Protection Act of 1971-1973. These copies greatly outnumber the originals and, for the most part, were intended to make the centennial of the Civil War. Tourists could buy packets of replicas at historic battlefields or other places of interest. Some notes also were produced to promote goods or services.

In England in 1964, replicas of Confederate notes were included in packs of chewing gum as part of a promotion by ABC Chewing Gum of Romford, Essex. The notes have black lettering on pink faces and white backs, and measure 5-1/2 x 2-3/4 inches. Genuine notes are 7 1/4” x 3 1/4 inches.

The telltale sign of a replica is the static serial number. Serial numbers on genuine specimens are handwritten and advance consecutively with every note. Replicas are produced in quantity and bear the same number.

A list of known replicas and obsolete notes (by state) can be found on the ANA website.

* * *

“A House Divided Money of the Civil War”

Visit the ANA Money Museum and assume the Identity of a historical figure who participated in the war. The North had industry and railroads and the South had great generals. So what decided the Civil War? MONEY!

“A House Divided: Money of the Civil War” takes a unique look at this epic, bloody time while showcasing the era’s coins, paper money, medals and new ideas in war financing that helped lead to the North’s victory.

Visitors are given keepsake identity cards featuring real people, some famous and some not, who were involved in the epic conflict. When entering the exhibit visitors will be given a card featuring one of 34 identities and are encouraged to look for additional interesting facts about their identities while exploring the exhibit.

Some identities include John Wilkes Booth, Abraham Lincoln’s assassin; Clara Barton, a nurse who later founded the American Red Cross; Mary Reynolds, a slave who provided a famous interview in 1937 and Thomas “Stonewall” Jackson, the famous Confederate general who died at the Battle of Chancellorsville.

The Museum is located in Colorado Springs. More information can be found on their website www.money.org.

* * *



Coin Club News

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

[Tom Casper #982]

The MNS continued its string of successful coin shows with the one held on Sunday, October 5th. The show was well attended in spite of a Brewers play-off game and a Packers game at noon.

A large cadre of bleary-eyed MNS volunteers were waiting at Serb Hall at 6:00 a.m. when the doors opened. They immediately set to work with the hall completely set up by 6:30 (a record time). The coffee was done and doughnuts available for the dealers at their 7:00 a.m. arrival.

A steady stream of attendees filled the hall with many of them staying past game time. Members were proudly sporting their new MNS buttons handed out by Stu Caddell.

By the numbers, there were 432 paid admissions and \$402 worth of raffle tickets sold at the door. There were 17 cases of exhibits from 6 exhibitors. Only 40 visitors filled out a slip in the lobby for a chance to win a 6-month subscription to Numismatic News, compliments of Krause Publications. Now those are pretty good odds for the two lucky winners. The dealers I spoke with said they were satisfied with the activity. Mark your calendar for next year's show on Sunday, October 4, 2009.

I would like to thank all the members who worked so tirelessly to make the show a

success. I would especially like to thank the chairmen who put in very long hours; David Hunsicker, Bruce Benoit, Lillian Kasun, Betty Petrovick, Norm Vogel and our faithful Treasurer, Lee Hartz. We can be proud of the largest-day show in Wisconsin.

We are almost sold out for next year. I hope all the members had a chance to attend and find a numismatic treasure for their collection.



Annette Tramte

by Tom Casper

I am sad to announce the death of long-time MNS member, Annette Tramte. Her death notice was in the October 21st Milwaukee Journal Sentinel.



*Annette Tramte
on her 90th Birthday*

Annette's husband, Anthony "Tony" was MNS treasurer for many years. After he passed, Annette became active in the MNS assuming the role of secretary. She served in this office until she resigned for health reasons. Annette was a dedicated member and spent all three days at the registration table when we had a 3-day show.

Annette worked hard on behalf of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society. It was always a pleasure working with her. Henry, her brother, is a MNS member and regularly attends our meetings. Her son, Michael, is a Governor on the NOW board.

Annette was a member of Numismatists of Wisconsin, joining in 1963. Annette will be fondly remembered by both NOW and MNS.

Madison Coin Club

Mark Ingold was guest speaker at the October 13th meeting. Mark talked about his experiences this summer as an intern with Heritage Auction Galleries in Dallas, Texas.

* * *

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

Club members hosted their annual coin show on Saturday, August 2, 2008, at the Siren Senior Center in Siren, Wisconsin.



The new 2008 wood features a wolverine and is available for 25¢ plus a self-addressed return envelope. Send your request to: Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club, c/o Gary Schauls, 2702 150th Street, Luck, WI 54853.

* * *

Sheboygan Falls Coin Show

[Ron Calkins]

On Saturday, October 25th, my wife and I got an early start from Mazomanie to attend the coin show at Sheboygan Falls. It was a nice fall day and NOW President Thad Streeter had called a NOW board meeting at 11:00 a.m. After the meeting, dealers were still doing a brisk business, so we spent some time on the bourse floor before leaving for home. A good show on a nice day.

* * *

International Bank Note Society Midwest Chapter

The International Bank Note Society was formed in 1961 to promote the study of world paper money. The IBNS encourages members who are geographically concentrated or share common topical interests to join together into groups by forming chapters.

A Midwest Chapter is located in the Milwaukee area for collectors interested in paper money. The group holds a Social Hour at 12:30 and meets at 1:00 p.m. at the North Shore Library in Glendale, WI. Future meeting dates are December 13, January 10 and February 14.

At the September meeting Neil Shafer presented a program on his Introduction to Philippine Guerilla Currency and showed several examples, including local issues, a full set of Cagayan stamp notes, Iloilo specimens among others. A new club logo is being designed by Chris Roth.

For more information, e-mail www.mcfls.org/northshorelibrary/ or e-mail sspmanager@aim.com.

Also take a look at the IBNS website www.theIBNS.org. There is a link to a gallery of paper money, which is very useful. Also you will discover many more benefits that this society can offer.

Dedicated Wooden Money Collectors

RuthAnn Phillips has changed numismatic hats -- she declined renewal on the NOW Board and has recently been elected secretary of the Dedicated Wooden Money Collectors. Anyone interested in joining this national organization should contact Larry White, P.O. Box 85, Liberty Center, OH 43532. Dues are only \$5 per year.

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Book Nook

Treasure in the Cellar **A Tale of Gold in Depression-Era** **Baltimore**

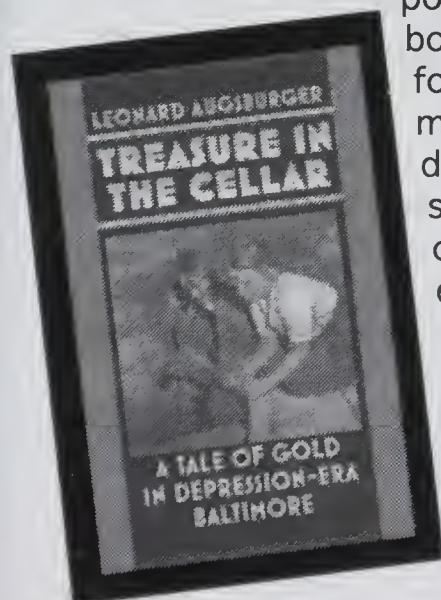
[by Leonard Augsburger]

Coin collectors have long been familiar with the story of two boys who unearthed a fortune in gold coins while playing in a Baltimore basement in 1934, but the rest of the story trailed off to a few odd details. One of the boys died young, the other ran into trouble with the law and no one seemed to know more.

A life-long coin collector, Leonard Augsburger, was determined to uncover the rest of the story. What happened to the kids?... the gold?... who buried it in the first place?

Meticulously researched, "Treasure in the Cellar" delves into the lives of the boys and their families, recreates the hours at the police station after the boys reported what they found, and describes months of courtroom drama as descendants of several former property owners came forward, each claiming the fortune for themselves.

Augsburger has written numerous articles for numismatic hobby periodicals, and is a frequent speaker at



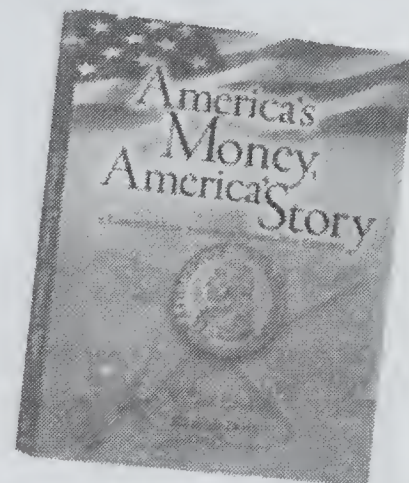
numismatic events. He is a member of the Maryland Historical Society, the ANA, the American Numismatic Society and the Medal Collectors of America.

The 208-page book is priced at \$26 and can be ordered by calling 847-816-1649 or visiting www.TreasureInTheCellar.com.

* * *

A Chronicle **of American** **Numismatic** **History**

Richard Doty's new "America's Money, America's Story" tells of our nation's struggles, creativity, resilience and triumphs.



Americans today know a bit about hard times and we've seen our share of financial turmoil. Some of us are old enough to remember the Great Depression of the 1930s. Dr. Doty recounts the financial struggle that Americans have undertaken from our earliest colonial days -- the struggle to import, adapt, manufacture, and spread money. A great nation grew out of those efforts and over the years we've tackled tough economic times with some surprising and innovative forms of legal (and illegal) tender.

In 224 pages, Doty, the senior curator of numismatics at the Smithsonian Institution, covers American money from beaver pelts and tobacco plugs of early New England to the gold boom of the 1850s, to the Federal Reserve currency of today. He shows us everything from copper "Hard Times" tokens to Civil War substitutes for the common cent, privately made gold coins, and money made from clamshells, leather, wood, rubber, or whatever it took to move our economy forward. To order, contact www.whitmanbooks.com.

* * *



Last Chance to Order Bald Eagle Commemorative Coins

[U.S. Mint]

Time is running out to order Bald Eagle Commemorative Coins. The U.S. Mint announced that it will stop sales of the coins struck to celebrate the recovery of our national emblem, the American Bald Eagle, on December 12th. Surcharges collected from the sale of these coins are authorized to be paid to the American Eagle Foundation of Tennessee to further its work.

Bald Eagle Commemorative Coin options still available include proof and uncirculated versions of a gold coin with a denomination of \$5, a silver dollar coin and a half-dollar clad coin. A Coin and Medal Set featuring an uncirculated Bald Eagle Silver Dollar and a bronze Bald Eagle Medal from the National Wildlife Refuge System Centennial Medal Series, also is available. Individual coin options include a Certificate of Authenticity.

The Bald Eagle Proof Silver Dollar Coin also will be available in the 2008 United States Mint American Legacy Collection, one of the star attractions in the United States Mint's Gift Catalog.

The maximum mintage for all Bald Eagle Commemorative Coin options, including sets, is limited to 100,000 \$5 gold coins, 500,000 silver dollar coins and 750,000 clad half-dollars.

To make the Bald Eagle Commemorative Coins part of your collection, visit the Mint's

secure website at www.usmint.gov or call toll-free 1-800-USA-MINT (872-6468).

* * *

From the Royal Mint

The Royal Mint Museum houses one of the finest coin collections in the world, containing some of the most outstanding rarities of the modern British coinage.

In an effort to share this national treasure more widely, an item from the museum is selected and explained each month on the Royal Mint website.

Ivory Coach Pass

As well as containing a great many rarities, particularly from the modern period, the Royal Mint collection also reflects and understandable interest in items that relate directly to the Mint as an institution and the people who have worked there.

This ivory coach pass, associated with a respected former Master of the Mint, William Wellesley Pole, is one such item.



Pole served as Master from 1814 to 1823, a period of office during which he fostered the maverick talent

of Benedetto Pistrucci and successfully organized a major recoinage. Many of the pieces in the collection that relate to former Mint officials are portrait medals or plaques and it is therefore refreshing that the collection should have an entirely different type of Mint related item in the form of a beautifully preserved ivory pass.

Gold Coin Changer

Another interesting item from the Royal Mint's collection is this Gold Coin Changer.

When the sovereign was a circulating coin, for many people it would have represented a sizeable amount of money and access to some means of obtaining change for such a high value coin would no doubt have been of real benefit. By offering the facility of exchanging a gold coin for small change in silver, the machine illustrated here, which dates from the end of the 19th century, would have addressed this very issue.



Although its operation might have seemed basic, it did in fact check the weight, diameter and thickness of sovereigns and half-sovereigns and would have probably been sophisticated enough to deter the unscrupulous.

Being located in a hotel lobby or in a London club might have also prevented its being misused but precisely where it would have been housed is a question that has puzzled those who have seen it in the Museum and for which there has not yet been a definite answer.

* * *

F+W Publications Downsizes

(by Fred Borgmann, Retired KP'er)

Late October F+W Publications announced 40 more permanent layoffs throughout the F+W empire, including Colin Bruce and Randy Thern from the Krause Publications Numismatic Catalog staff.

This decapitates the Numismatic Cataloging Department leaving only Tom Michael and George Cuhaj to carry a workload formerly done by five numismatic staffers. This does not bode well for the future of the Standard Catalogs unless some kind of miracle is in the works.

Obama Featured on Medallion



For those of you who are elated about the recent Presidential election, you will want to order this 1 ounce pure silver medallion from Vision Trading Partners of Las Vegas, NV.

The obverse depicts the bust of Obama encircled by legends "United States of America" along the upper rim and "Obama 2008" along the lower rim. Struck by Sunshine Minting

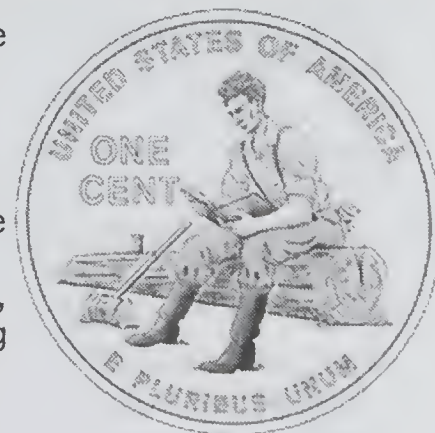
of Idaho, the deep cameo proof medallions are 39 mm in diameter and 1 troy ounce of silver. These medals are encapsulated in air-tite holders for \$100 each. A gift set of 10 in holders in a velvet box costs \$800. To order, call 800-785-6113..

* * *

2009 Lincoln Bicentennial 1¢ Program

In 2009, the United States Mint will mint and issue four different one-cent coins in recognition of the bicentennial of President Abraham Lincoln's birth and the 100th anniversary of the first issuance of the Lincoln cent.

The reverse designs were unveiled September 22nd at a ceremony held at the Lincoln Memorial on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. While the obverse will continue to bear the familiar likeness of President Lincoln currently on the one-cent coin, the reverse will reflect four different designs, each one representing a different aspect, or theme, of the life of President Lincoln.



* * *



Alaska Quarter

The fourth quarter released by the U.S. Mint in 2008 commemorates the state of Alaska. It is the 49th coin to be issued in the Mint's 50 State Quarters Program.

On January 3, 1959, Alaska became the 49th state to be admitted into the Union. The reverse of the Alaska quarter features a grizzly bear emerging from the waters clutching a salmon in its jaw. The coin's design includes the North Star displayed above the inscription "The Great Land" and the inscriptions "Alaska" and "1959".

The grizzly bear and salmon symbolize Alaska's natural beauty and abundant wildlife, with the bear representing strength and the salmon representing the nutrition that provides for this strength. The grizzly flourishes in Alaska and can be observed in places such as Denali and Katmai National Parks, Kodiak Island and Admiralty Island. More than 98% of the United States' grizzly population is found in Alaska.

The word "Alaska" comes from the Aleutian word "Alyeska", meaning "The Great Land". Populated by Indians, Eskimos and Aleuts for centuries, Alaska was not explored by Europeans until 1741. Russia established a colony in Alaska to protect its lucrative fur-trading interests, but sold Alaska to the United States in 1867 for \$7.2 million, or two cents per acre, when it could no longer afford to maintain the colony. Although the purchase was derided by many in the United States at the time, its worth became

apparent following late 19th century gold rushes and the discovery of oil in the mid-20th century.

The 11-member Alaska Commemorative Coin Commission appointed by former Governor Frank Murkowski, invited Alaskans to submit design ideas for the Alaska quarter. From the 850+ submissions, four concepts were forwarded to the U.S. Mint for consideration. Governor Sara Palin announced her selection of the grizzly bear and salmon design following a state-wide comment period.

The Department of the Treasury approved the design on May 25, 2007.

* * *

Hawaii Quarter



The fifth and final quarter-dollar coin released in 2008 honors the state

of Hawaii, and is the 50th and last coin in the U.S. Mint's 50 State Quarters Program. Hawaii, spelled "Hawai'i" in the Hawaiian language, is nicknamed "The Aloha State". It became the 50th state admitted to the Union on August 21, 1959. The release of this quarter signals the end of the 10-year 50 State Quarters Program.

The reverse of Hawaii's quarter features Hawaiian monarch King Kamehameha I stretching his hand toward the eight major Hawaiian Islands. Inscriptions are the state motto "UA MAU KE EA O KA 'AINA I KA PONO" (The life of the land is perpetuated in righteousness), "Hawaii" and "1959".

King Kamehameha I is a revered figure in Hawaiian history. He unified the governance of

the Hawaiian Islands into one kingdom in the early 1800s and navigated changes in Hawaii, while maintaining the native practices and traditional ways of island life. His "Law of the Splintered Paddle" guaranteed the protection of citizens from harm during war and became a landmark in humanitarian law. He is honored with a statue in the U.S. Capitol's National Statuary Hall.

The 36-member Hawaii Commemorative Quarter Advisory Commission, composed of leaders and students from around the state, invited citizens to submit themes for the coin's design. From the 400 ideas received, the Commission developed five narratives to send to the U.S. Mint for consideration. An online poll was conducted to determine the citizens' preference. On April 23, 2007, Governor Linda Lingle announced her selection of the "Hawaii, the Island State" design featuring King Kamehameha I, which was the recommendation of the Commission and also the winning design of the online poll. The Department of the Treasury approved the design on May 25, 2007.

* * *

Wisconsin Extra Leaf Quarters

[This information appeared in Eagle Eye Rare Coins, Inc. ad published in Numismatic News last August]

Ever since their discovery in 2004, the variety has captured collectors attention. How/why were they made? Last year it was unequivocally proven by metal lurgist and die variety expert Chris Pilliod that these were made on purpose by someone who had access to the die making apparatus at the Denver Mint. The key to his proof was the deformation of the metal around the extra leafs. He proved that the dies were marked by someone with a curved tool and a hammer while the dies were still soft. The "High Leaf" die was marked once and the "Low Leaf" die was marked twice.

In all numismatics, this is a unique event! Errors always happen and die varieties are

inadvertently created, but here is a variety created by someone (who did it and why, we don't know) and the numismatic community has taken notice and should be very excited about this! Even other die variety experts who earlier questioned this conclusion have now agreed that this is the likely scenario.

These coins are currently priced in the 2009 Red Book, Coin World's "Coin Values" and many other pricing guides.

* * *

D.C. and U.S. Territories

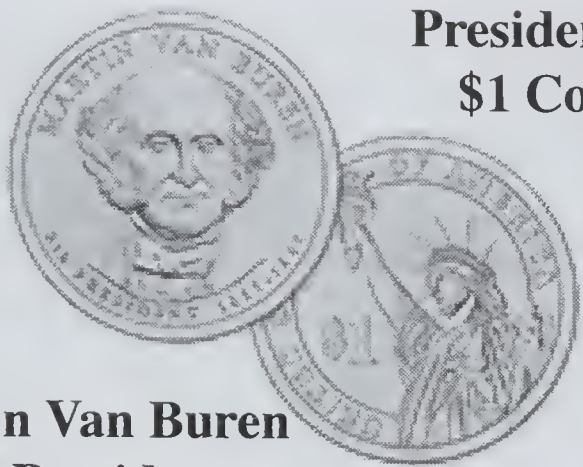
In 2009 the U.S. Mint will issue six quarter-dollar coins in honor of the District of Columbia and the five U.S. Territories: the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. These coins will be issued in equal sequential intervals in 2009 in the order listed.

The image of George Washington on the obverse will remain unchanged, however, the reverse of the coin will be distinctly different with images emblematic of the District of Columbia and each of the U.S. Territories.

Public Law requires the Secretary of the Treasury to approve each reverse design after consulting with the Chief Executive of the District of Columbia or the territory being honored and the Commission of Fine Arts, and after review by the Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee. The Design Evaluation and Selection Process provides details on the steps the Secretary and the U.S. Mint will take to develop and approve the reverse designs in this 2009 series.

These coins will be issued for circulation in quantities to meet the needs of the United States – both for commerce and for collectors. In addition, the Secretary has the authority to mint and issue uncirculated and proof coins, as well as a 90% silver version of each coin. These numismatic versions will be included in the U.S. Mint's annual product offerings.

Presidential \$1 Coin



Martin Van Buren **8th President** **1837- 1841**

Martin Van Buren was born in December of 1782. He holds the distinction of being the first president to be born an American citizen.

His family operated a tavern in a Dutch neighborhood in Kinderhook, New York. Martin's interest in politics took root at an early age as local and state politicians often gathered at the Van Buren establishment as they traveled between New York and Albany. Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr were among the distinguished politicians that exposed young Martin to political ideology.

Van Buren served in the United States Senate and was governor of New York before becoming Andrew Jackson's secretary of state. He served as vice president during Jackson's second term and handily won the 1837 presidential election.

As president, Van Buren initiated an independent federal treasury system to take the place of state banks' handling of federal monies and peacefully settled disputes with Great Britain that were threatening to take the country to war. However, a deep economic depression persisted throughout his term in office and he lost his bid for re-election in 1841.

No coinage legislation was enacted under President Van Buren nor did he appoint a Director of the United States Mint.

* * *

Martin Van Buren's Liberty **First Spouse \$10 Gold Coin**

The Presidential \$1 Coin Act of 2005 contains a provision to provide continuity of the First Spouse Gold Coin Program during those times in which a president served without a first spouse. This provision applies to Martin Van Buren, whose wife Hannah died in 1819. Married in 1807 Van Buren was a widower for 18 years when he became president in 1837.

The gold coins issued to accompany any president who served without a spouse will each feature a design emblematic of Liberty on its obverse, as depicted on a United States coin issued during the President's time in office. For Martin Van Buren's presidency, the selected image appeared on the Liberty Seated Dime coin from 1837-1891, and was originally executed by U.S. Mint Engraver Christian Gobrecht.



* * *

United States Mint Unveils 2009 Presidential \$1 Coin Designs

On October 8th the Mint released four new portraits that will appear on the obverse of Presidential \$1 Coins. The coins honor former Presidents William Henry Harrison, John Tyler, James Polk and Zachary Taylor.

"We hope Americans not only appreciate the aesthetic qualities of the Presidential \$1 Coins, but also remember each President's legacy every time they use the coins in their daily transactions" said Mint Director, Ed Moy. "Presidential \$1 coins are convenient to use, save the taxpayers money and are durable and last for decades."

Designs for the Presidential coins are based on official White House portraits, intaglio prints and medal designs.

Launched in 2007, the Presidential \$1 Coin Program features a series of designs honoring four Presidents annually, with a new coin issued approximately every three months. Since the inception of the multi-year program, the U.S. Mint has minted more than 1.4 billion new \$1 coins.

* * *



*Happy
Holidays*

Forger Passed Off £20 Note from 'Santa's Christmas Bank' as Genuine

(By Kurt Bayer)

A forger convinced a cashier a £20 note was real, despite Santa Claus and his reindeer being on it.

Stacy Rice's self-made Santa Christmas Bank Note promised to pay the bearer nothing and listed Santa as the bank's "chief operating officer" with his address listed as the North Pole.

But Rice, 27, was still able to pass it off as genuine in an astonishing scam, a court heard. She duped a gullible cashier at a gym and the woman gave Rice change of the £20 note in smaller denominations.

The con woman was only caught when gym bosses spotted the note was a fake. Rice admitted committing fraud at Fitness First in Dundee last January.

Sheriff Alistar Duff, who revealed that the £20 note was not even referred to as counterfeit in the charge, but as a "piece of paper" said it was a remarkable case. He added "The most astonishing thing is she got away with it. It was astounding that she even dreamed this up as a scheme."

* * *



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Christmas Charity

by Phyllis Calkins #99L



The “miracle” of Christmas is repeated over and over again through the joy of caring and sharing. The traditional red kettle is an integral part of the holiday scene, with millions of dollars donated annually to aid needy families, seniors, and the homeless, in keeping with the spirit of the season.

Gold Coins Dropped into Donation Kettles

Last summer a generous and anonymous donor placed a one-half ounce American Gold Eagle coin into a Salvation Army kettle. The Sioux City Journal also reported donations of a quarter-ounce gold South African Krugerrand turned up outside a Kmart, then a one-ounce Krugerrand a few days later. Another one-ounce American Gold Eagle coin was dropped into a kettle in Prescott, Arizona.

Salvation Army History

The Salvation Army began in 1865 when William Booth, a London Minister, gave up the comfort of his pulpit to take his message into the streets where it would reach the poor, the homeless, the hungry and the destitute.

His original aim was to send converts to established churches of the day, but he soon realized that the poor did not feel comfortable or welcome in the pews of most churches of Victorian England. Regular churchgoers were appalled when these shabbily dressed, unwashed people came to join them in worship.

Booth decided to found a church especially for them -- the East London Christian Mission. The mission grew slowly, but Booth's faith in God remained undiminished.

In May of 1878, Booth summoned his son,

Bramwell, and good friend, George Railton, to read a proof of the Christian Mission's annual report. At the top it read “The Christian Mission is a Volunteer Army”. Bramwell strongly objected to this wording (he was not a volunteer) so Booth crossed out the word “Volunteer” and wrote “Salvation”. The Salvation Army was born.

Red Kettle History

The kettle campaign actually began back in 1891 and is now used world-wide. In 1891, Salvation Army Captain Joseph McFee was distraught because so many poor individuals in San Francisco were going hungry. During the holiday season he resolved to provide a free Christmas dinner for the destitute and poverty-stricken. He only had one major hurdle to overcome – funding the project.

Where would the money come from? He lay awake nights, worrying, thinking, praying about how he could find the funds to fulfill his commitment of feeding 1,000 of the city's poorest individuals on Christmas Day. As he pondered the issue, his thoughts drifted back to his sailor days in Liverpool, England. He remembered how at Stage Landing, where the boats came in, there was a large, iron kettle called “Simpson's Pot” into which passers-by tossed a coin or two to help the poor.

The next day Captain McFee placed a similar pot at the Oakland Ferry Landing at the foot of Market Street. Beside the pot, he placed a sign that read “Keep the Pot Boiling.” He soon had money to see that the needy people were properly fed at Christmas.

Six years later, the kettle idea spread from the west coast to the Boston area. That year, the combined effort nationwide resulted in 150,000 Christmas dinners for the needy. In 1901, kettle contributions in New York City provided the funds for the first mammoth sit-down dinner in Madison Square Garden, a custom that continued for many years.

Today in the U.S. the Salvation Army assists more than four-and-a-half million people during Thanksgiving and Christmas time.

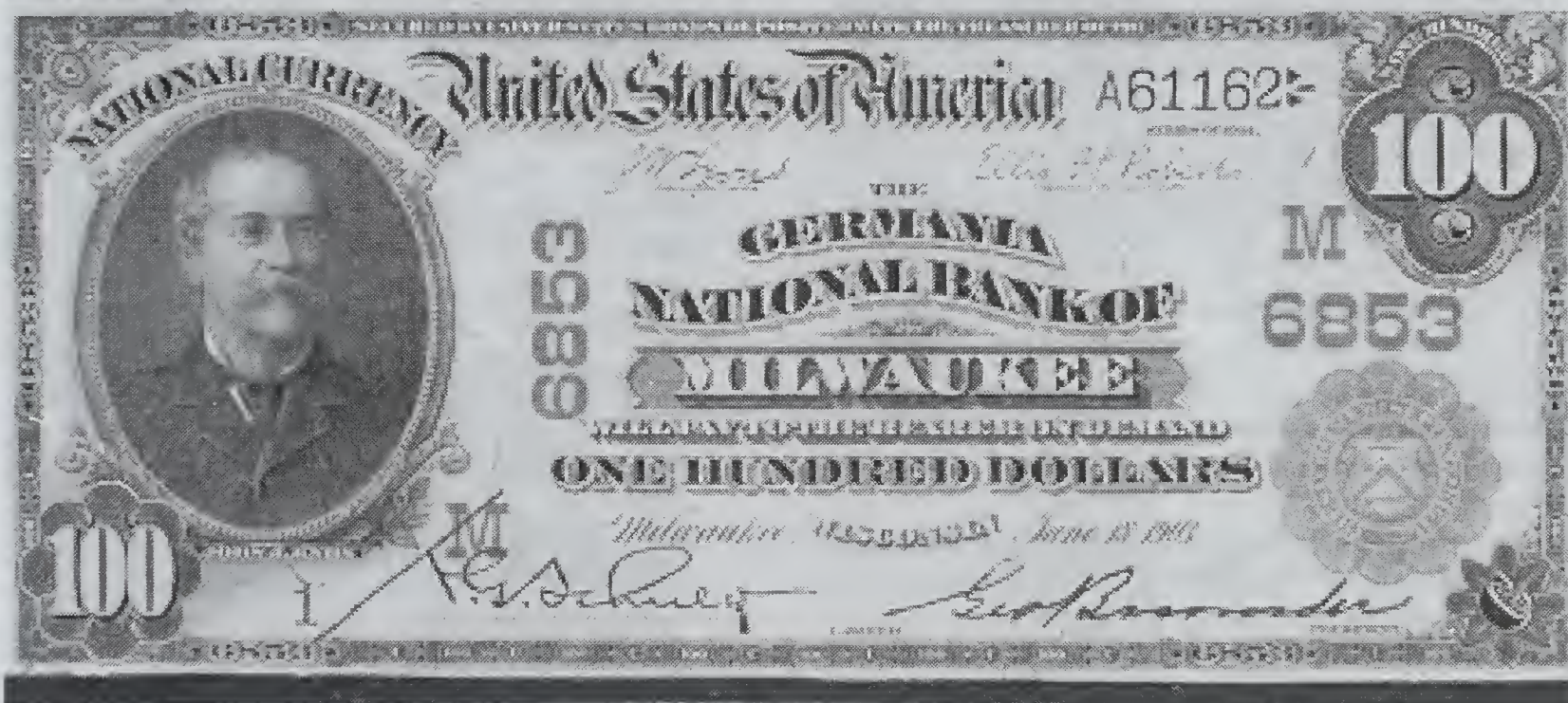
Captain McFee's kettle idea launched a tradition that has spread not only throughout the United States, but all across the world. Kettles are now used in such distant lands as Korea, Japan, Chile and many European countries. Everywhere, public contributions to Salvation Army kettles enable the organization to continue its year-round efforts at helping those who would otherwise be forgotten.

[references: various internet sources]

BANK NOTE MANIA

{By Tom Casper? #982}

The long anticipated auction of the Chester Krause Banknote Collection took place on October 17, 2007 at the PCDA show in St. Charles, Missouri. Excitement filled the air for the largest Wisconsin National Banknote collection ever assembled. Chet, the founder of Krause Publications, said it took 40 years to amass this collection. It encompassed two smaller collections that he purchased over the



years from Wisconsinites Monte Sherwin and Bob Steele.

Lyn Knight conducted the 905-lot sale. A beautiful catalog pictured all the rarities seldom seen by collectors. It was wonderful to be able to see and handle these notes prior to the sale in the auction lot viewing room.

While there were more scarce notes than I have space to talk about, I want to mention four highlights of the sale. Lot 3217, a \$1 original from the First National Bank of Evansville sold for \$21,000. It is the only known note from this bank. Lot 3263, \$5 Black Charter from Kellogg National Bank of Green Bay sold for \$32,000. It is one of two known. Lot 3488, a \$10 1882BB from the First National Bank of Milwaukee sold for \$2,600. It is the only known note from this bank. Lot 3509, \$100 Red Seal from the Germania National Bank of Milwaukee sold for \$60,000 and is pictured here. The photo is courtesy of Lyn Knight Auctions. It is one of five \$100 Red Seals known in the country. MNS member Del Bertschy once owned this note. These prices don't include the 15% buyer's fee.

The auction room was filled with all the notable Wisconsin rag pickers hoping for a chance to complete their collections and to own a note from this numismatic icon. This was truly a once in a lifetime opportunity. Those that couldn't make the trip, submitted written bids, bid by eBay or by live phone. "Just Chet" was in attendance and was kept

busy before the auction and during an auction break by graciously autographing his auction catalog.

It was an exhilarating experience to sit next to Chet while he tracked the auction. We can all be appreciative of him for assembling this collection, exhibiting it and then putting it back in the hands of dedicated collectors for us to enjoy for many years to come. I'm sure he will be fondly remembered when we look at these notes in our collections. Thanks Chet.

* * *

Christmas Pudding Coins

It's an old British tradition (which also exists in other Commonwealth countries) to put silver coins or charms into traditional Christmas plum pudding. The idea is that if you find a coin in your slice of pudding on Christmas Day it will bring you luck for the forthcoming year -- particularly where money is concerned.



Coins are the most commonly used Christmas pudding tokens, however, this tradition became endangered when silver coins were replaced by base metals which were deemed unsafe to cook with.

[reference: Internet]



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There are approximately 18 million items for sale on eBay at any given moment, and every second there are almost \$700 in transactions registered on the site.

Wisconsin's State Capitol \$2 National Note

[By Tom Snyder #797]

At the PCDA Lyn Knight auction in October 2008, I acquired from the Chet Krause sale, the \$2 Madison Lazy Deuce. This note was originally obtained by my old-time friend, Del Bertschy from a Milwaukee bank teller. Del was a prominent Wisconsin numismatist and long-time member of the Milwaukee Numismatic Society and N.O.W. who passed away on February 22, 1988 at the age of 91.

Del was a life-long salesman for Roundy's food distributors. He lived in Shorewood, Wisconsin, a northeast suburb of Milwaukee. He was an avid collector of old coins and paper money, and was the ultimate networker for the purpose of corralling these collectables from the public. He became a minor stockholder in every downtown Milwaukee bank, where he met people in the banking business and let them know of his interests. During World War II, there was rationing of cigarettes among many other commodities, and Del with his inside access to Roundy's warehouse which brokered cigarettes at that time, was able to acquire some and pass them around to bank tellers, who obliged by saving old or unusual coins and paper money for him. Now, at that time, an east coast dealer by the name of Barney Bluestone was offering a 10% premium for

any U.S. large size currency, so Del had an outlet for any items he did not want to keep for his collection. He also had similar outlets for the coins he acquired.

At the 1962 Central States convention in Milwaukee, Del met another Wisconsin paper money collector by the name of Monte Sherwin, of Black River Falls. They discussed their mutual collecting interests and sat at the same table for the Central States convention breakfast during which Del showed off the Madison Lazy Deuce.

Well, Monte fell in love and pestered Del to sell him that note for quite some time to follow. One morning in 1964, while conversing on the telephone, Del in a weak moment said 'OK, Monte, I will sell you the Madison Lazy Two.' Four hours later, the precise time it took to drive from Black River Falls to Shorewood, Monte was knocking on Del's door, check in hand, to take away the Madison Lazy Deuce before Del could change his mind. Monte's arrival was unexpected and Del really thought they would meet at another convention. So, now Monte owned the note for many years until his advanced



A.P. Del Bertschy

age, then gave Chet Krause the pick of his collection, so the Madison Lazy Deuce next went to Chet, renowned as numismatic publisher and founder of N.O.W. We collectors are grateful that in 2008 Chet has



given all of us the opportunity to acquire a few pieces of his massive Wisconsin national bank note collection.

The note itself is in very fine condition, Bank serial number 67 of only 140 issued. The pen signed signatures are of A. B. Van Dyke, president and Wayne Ramsay, cashier. Mr. Ramsay was a long-time cashier and his signature appears on Madison notes issued some 35 years later. This Lazy Two was issued about 1874, due to the red (144) bank charter number overprint being required in that year to aid in sorting retired bank notes. One and two dollar national currency denominations were discontinued in 1879 along with the discontinuance of fractional currency and the full resumption of silver dollar production. The note is dubbed Lazy Deuce after the large numeral two laying on its face. Non-collectors seem to miss this feature until you turn the note so the two is in an upright position. Then a smile appears on their face. Such are the joys of collecting.

* * *

At the Periphery A Midwesterner Looks ANS

(by NOW Historian – Gene Johnson #105L)

To the numismatist with a historical bent, polling is a part of any analysis of hobby structure examined, so an undercover “sting” type inquiry of acquaintance’s within the NOW and the numismatic hobby has been in place the last year or so. The poll, what about American Numismatic Society?

To the novice numismatist (ie. new coin collector) the ANA is most often viewed as the elite of the hobby, to the gatherer of paper money or coin, the American Numismatic Association is viewed as the top echelon of numismatics.

Back in 1955, a virgin coin collector, my mentor, Chet Krause, steered me into the national organization with the observation that most of the veteran Wisconsin people looked up to, and the dealers from whom rare coins were bought, were indeed ANA members.

Swept along in the burgeoning numismatic surge of post world war two, it was many years later that mild interest in a shadowy and rarely discussed American Numismatic Society surfaced.

It was only when Chet Krause was honored by ANS in 2007, that the quest for a full understanding of this global, high profile, literary and art oriented coin club was to be realized.

Calling the ANS a coin club is tantamount to calling the Taj Mahal a funeral monument, correct, but understated.

During a winter stay in Palm Springs, California, the extensive numismatic papers of long-time collector Agnar Wahlberg became available for study, and I sought a site where this “leading edge” research paper could be retained for posterity. NOW and ANA did not offer such a site.

The late Agnar Wahlberg, the consummate researcher, never received much numismatic press ink, but today would be considered by NOW members to be comparable to our own Gordon Gill.

Only two NOW members were known members of ANS – Chet Krause and Cliff Mishler, men with local, state and national hobby roots, and whom it was felt could open this door to what some hobby folks have considered a “rich man’s venue”. While NOW is a bit light on multi-millionaires, this ANS organization, wealthy or not, nicely fills a necessary numismatic niche.

When Chet was honored by ANS, an opportunity to see this organization in action was created, and the chance to relate to NOW members the “what and how” of this little publicized super nova of numismatics.

That NOW members especially, and the entire numismatic hobby as a whole, view Chet Krause numismatically as akin to God, and Cliff Mishler as the “Elisha out of Michigan, come to Wisconsin” was shown in the latest ANA election.

Swept into office as ANA governors, these two men exude an honesty and dignity of the high echelon of that 117-year-old national organization.

ANA is venerable, yet the roots of the American Numismatic Society are even deeper, dating to the year 1858.

Historically, the initial establishment of ANS is cloudy, but the organization was incorporated in New York state in 1865, 95 years before NOW was founded in 1960 in Iowa, Wisconsin. Charter A.N.S. meetings were held at the home of A.B. Sage, then later rented rooms were used.

The organization has had three name changes, from "American Numismatic and Archaeological Society" to "American Numismatic and Antiquarian Society," in 1881, to its current title in 1907.

Fast forward to 1907, an A.N.S. headquarters was established at the Audubon Terrace, 155th Street and Broadway, in upper west side Manhattan. These commodious accommodations were outgrown in late 2004, and the headquarters now moved to a former bank building in the New York financial district.

The new 35,000 square foot A.N.S. building was intended to allow the societies ongoing exhibits to be moved here from their current site at the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

The previous A.N.S. building was sold to a museum at the "friends price" of \$4,800,000. Using materials provided by Krause and Mishler, it is possible to "flesh out" the framework of this numismatic giant.

The Society mission is outlined in the 2005 annual report as "advance the study and appreciation of coins, medals and related objects of all cultures as historic and artistic documents."

To the local club member, who "enjoys" the gathering and study of numismatic items, the A.N.S. wording of "appreciation" gives a common bond to the grass roots collector.

To accomplish this study and appreciation mission, the A.N.S. online website in 2005 had an incredible 400,000 hits, and A.N.S. permanent and short-term exhibits at the Federal Reserve New York Bank, were viewed by 40-50 thousand people, a total that perhaps exceeds the combined exhibit viewers of all other 2005 coin shows and conventions combined. The professionally crafted non-competitive Society exhibits are strongly educational.

While the small coin show competitive exhibitor is pretty much a vanishing specie, large non-competitive displays have been around for many years. The acclaimed Gordon Gill non-com was indeed exceptional, and Chet Krause's paper display at the 2007 A.N.A. convention in Milwaukee indicates a hobby "exhibition" is beneficial, and that his type of exhibit is well received by all levels of numismatists, as well as the non-collecting public.

While coin clubs and numismatic organizations are usually governed by elected boards, A.N.S. has 26 "trustees" elected much like the NOW Board of Governors, to 3-year terms. Other officers are configured more like the A.N.A. President, Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer and the recent addition of Board Chairman.

In A.N.S. an executive director heads a 32-member staff of professionals, consultants and volunteers, to service the curatorial, administrative and library functions of the multi-million dollar Society. Interestingly, the A.N.S. Director is a woman.

Little publicized in the numismatic and main stream media, the A.N.S. Outreach has been exceptional.

During the time of the huge grass roots numismatic surge stretching from post World War II years through the 1960s, a surge fueled in no small measure by Numismatic News in 1952, A.N.S. began to conduct seminars touted as the "Foremost Training Programs" provided for budding numismatic leaders.

This "Eric P. Newman" seminar program has continually run since its inception. Outreach in the form of loaned artifacts is also a positive part of A.N.S., these loans are often to historic museums around the country.

The mainstream numismatic invisibility of A.N.S. is in part due to its New York headquarters, a long reach from the midwest, not to mention the numismatic hotbed of California. The location, however, lends itself to foreign researchers who use the vast world-wide "cabinet" and library of A.N.S. materials.

These non-residential A.N.S. members are described in the annual report as a "substantial international component."

A second cause of main stream A.N.S. invisibility is that although numerous scholarly A.N.S. booklets and papers were created, periodical publication was spotty and intermittent prior to the year 2002.

The "American Numismatic Society Magazine" now nicely fills that gap, published 3 times a year, it extrudes a glamorous yet studious view of the "top" of our hobby. The slick paper magazine is included in a \$40 per year A.N.S. membership dues.

The A.N.S. library is a combination of paper trail and artifacts, making it difficult to separate the "cabinet" a repository of the massive A.N.S. numismatic collections.

Among library holdings are rare books, numismatic literature from many sources, and extensive holdings of auction catalogs. Augmenting these is a 268,000 item photo file of indexed numismatic images, including coins, paper money, medals, odd and curious, tokens and exnumia.

The cabinet is more of a high level research vehicle than a collection, hundreds of unique and semi-unique numismatic pieces are held, along with art oriented related objects with a conservative combined value of \$21 million in the year 2005.

Donations flood in, domestic and foreign, and the healthy finances of A.N.S. allow purchases to fill any gaps in a continuity of series.

All this from a relatively small membership of only 1,800 members. Within this membership base is an elite "society within a society" called the "August B. Sage." Limited to 200 members, its dues are \$2,500 per year... and you thought NOW dues were high!

The membership is defined as: 1) Associate Members, 2) Fellows, 3) Life Fellows, and 4) Honorary members. Associate Members are non-voting.

When "Honorary Fellow" Chet Krause was feted with a "gala" in 2006, a personal level was established between N.O.W. and A.N.S. members.

While creating the Numismatists of Wisconsin organization is but a tiny blip in the hobby resume of Chet Krause, it has created a statewide fan club, who revere Chet with a fervor akin to Bret Farve groupies.

The A.N.S. Social version of our local coin club banquet and picnics is the "gala." As the year 2005, these gala's have garnered \$137,000 for use in A.N.S. research projects.

In my personal interaction with the American Numismatic Society, in addition to my search for a home for the Agnar Wahlberg papers, there was the problem of finding token and medal images for a NOW News story called "The Peacemakers."

The search for World War II hero Raul Wallenberg on metal was no problem for A.N.S., and the organization provided images at no cost for the Peacemaker story that is in process. Not being an A.N.S. member, I asked Cliff Mishler to inquire if the A.N.S. Library could help and the images were quickly forthcoming.

My hope is that this little primer on the American Numismatic Society will enlighten the NOW membership as much as the creation of the story has myself.

* * *

First National Bank in Oshkosh

- Compelling History Provides Numismatic Tidbits -

(by Jeff Reichenberger NOW #1933)

The First National Bank in Oshkosh, WI had a long and prosperous history, surviving a great fire, depressed economies, and many consolidations and name changes. With a core of prudent management that garnered steady growth spanning more than 100 years. As the bank grew, it was housed in buildings of impressive stature. The surviving building, which has been an imposing tower on Main Street since 1927, no longer houses a bank, but it will play the role of one in a major motion picture in the near future.

History Takes Shape Under Four Presidents and Four Buildings

The Presidents

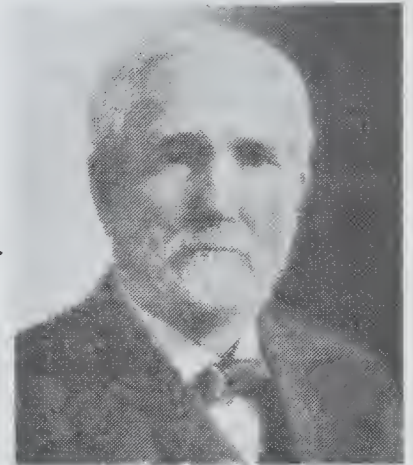
The first banking institution unceremoniously established in Oshkosh, WI, was founded by Mr. Ansel W. Kellogg. In 1852, he and two partners opened a brokerage in a Jewelers shop. The village of Oshkosh at the time was a small gathering of settlers on the western shore of Lake Winnebago near the mouth of the Fox River. These waterways brought immigrants and merchants through the area. Kellogg carefully managed all aspects of the firm astutely and soon enjoyed a robust business. In 1857, after a change in state banking laws, he was able to organize the Bank of Oshkosh and held the office of president. According to newspaper accounts, the Oshkosh Daily Northwestern (hereafter ODN)



Ansel W. Kellogg

Mr. Kellogg is said to have "had few financial superiors in the west at the time. Careful and sagacious in his views, exact in his business habits, he did much to preserve the credit of the city and county during the stormy times succeeding the financial panic of 1857, and again in the 'wild cat' days immediately after the Civil War." His early influence and exemplary business reputation followed the institution through the years.

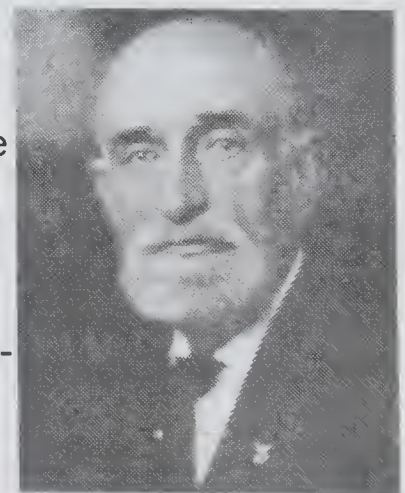
In 1863, Kellogg was assisted by Samuel M. Hay in organizing the First National Bank. Hay took over as president when Kellogg retired in 1865, and navigated the bank through several reorganizations while keeping the integrity of the bank's business



Samuel M. Hay

practices sound. In addition to his financial interests, Mr. Hay was dedicated to public service. A revered man in the community, he was mayor of Oshkosh in 1858-59, served as an assemblyman and state senator, and was member of the Normal School board of regents. He was appointed to the United States Assay Commission in 1893. The bank grew substantially under Hay's leadership through 1904, when he retired after 39 years as president.

Mr. Edgar P. Sawyer succeeded Hay as president and guided the bank through more tremendous growth and consolidation. His father was an early lumber Barron, stock holder and board member of the bank, and later was elected to the U.S Senate. Edgar ran the family business in his father's absence.



Edgar P. Sawyer

The lumber industry thrived in Oshkosh, which earned the nickname 'the sawdust city', with not less than 24 lumber mills operating along the banks of the Fox River. By the turn of the century, Oshkosh was the second largest city in Wisconsin. Now a prominent businessman, Sawyer followed in his father's footsteps and became a board member of the bank. His financial interests expanded as he became vice president assisting Mr. Hay for many years before advancing to president in 1904. The bank grew along with the city and became the largest financial institution in Wisconsin north of Milwaukee.

Mr. Sawyer retired in 1924, which elevated Mr. Louis Schriber as the 4th president of



Louis Schriber

the bank. Schriber, whose father served as a board member of the bank for years, started there as a messenger in 1897 and worked through the ranks at various positions to the vice presidency in 1918. He was an active and ambitious manager of the operation under Sawyer, largely responsible for the bank's hefty growth through mergers and acquisitions. The ODN reported that his presidency brought a "new era of advancement" for the First National Bank and it rapidly became known as "one of the finest financial institutions in the middle west." The beautiful new structure built in 1927 was said to be a monument to Schriber's guidance. He held the presidency until his death in 1952.

The Buildings

When Ansel Kellogg started the first bank in Oshkosh, it was without a building of his own. Sharing quarters with a jewelry store soon became inadequate, so he moved the operation to a three-story building located at 64



Main Street. The box style structure was a typical main street commercial structure of the period. Housed in this building, the bank became officially known as the First National Bank in 1863, joining the national banking system. Business flourished under this roof until a great fire swept through Oshkosh in April of 1875, destroying more than 300 buildings including the bank.

It didn't take long for the industrious town to begin rebuilding, and the bank led the way under the insisted priority of Samuel Hay. Relocating a few blocks north to the corner of Main Street and Washington Boulevard (the present location), the grand edifice was considered the finest of its day. Made of Lake Superior red sandstone, the architecture and color stood out against the Main Street landscape which was still under reconstruction after the fire. The building had a corner stairway leading to the entrance on an elevated first floor and capped corner turrets rising to the height of three stories. The interior was furnished with the finest walnut throughout, and clear glass counters finished the stately look. The bank arose as a beacon of renewal to the community. At the time known as the finest bank building in the state with a total cost of \$27,000, it remained the home of the First National Bank for 35 years.

By 1910 the beautiful red sandstone building was no longer adequate to house the growing bank. It was razed to make room for a modern two-story structure made of white limestone. Another architecturally handsome and sturdy structure, built at a cost of \$100,000, it was said to be serviceable for decades. However, the rapid absorption of other banking institutions, as well as the formation of the First Trust and First Investment companies soon proved that the bank had outgrown the building a mere sixteen years after construction.

Grandiose plans to build a modern 'skyscraper' began to take shape in the latter months of 1925. Coupled with the acquisition of another bank, the new and official name of the financial firm became the First National

Bank in Oshkosh. The roaring twenties were in full swing and Oshkosh was determined to keep pace with the most modern cities in the country. The ODN published a 24-page special edition to celebrate the bank's opening on April 28, 1927. Reporting that, "Louis Schriber, president of the bank, officers, and directors saw the vision of a greater Oshkosh. They gave eloquent proof of their faith and confidence in the growth and prosperity of Oshkosh in planning the new building." The new 8-story skyscraper towered above Main Street, changing the skyline of Oshkosh. "Like a giant symbol of progress the million-dollar structure has ushered in a period of civic advancement unrivaled in the history of the community," the ODN gushed. Indeed, the building is an impressive combination of stone, steel, and concrete architecture and is still among the tallest buildings in town. It stands today virtually unchanged from the day it opened. Designed by Hoggson Brothers Architects of New York, prolific bank designers at the time, they hired local pioneer contractor CR Meyer to build it.

The bank spared no expense in the construction. The interior is impressive, adorned with multiple colors of marble offset by polished brass elevators and fixtures. The cavernous lobby is two stories high with offices looking down from the mezzanine. Chandeliers and ornate ceiling decoration reflect on the wall to wall brass inlaid marble floor. The right side of the vestibule opens to a marble staircase which leads to the lower level where the vault and safety deposit rooms are located. The vaults were said to be the finest, most secure public depository in existence, and that locating them in the lower level was a new and state of the art concept to foil potential criminals. The ODN reported, "The weights and dimensions of the vault's construction are almost bewildering." "The door to the main vault weighs 30 tons while the balance of the construction is made up of additional tonnage of specially perfected steel and concrete." The exterior of the building is faced with granite and limestone, "a revival of Italian architecture with its pilaster treatment

surmounted cornice and ornamental parapets. The central feature on Main Street is the three 2-story arches, the middle arch forming the main entrance to the bank. The arches are impressively decorated with pilasters and over the arches are four medallions with conventional designs representing coins."

Bas-relief Medallions

The newspaper description says nothing further about these four bas-relief medallion sculptures. They are renderings of the obverse and reverse of the Standing Liberty Quarter and the Walking Liberty Half Dollar. Blueprints of the building reveal little about the medallions or other outside decorations. The drawings show the four round spaces each to be 3 feet in diameter, with the word 'model' within the circle. The medallions as they exist on the building are not three feet in diameter; they are closer to two feet, apparently the architect simply allowed a three-foot diameter space in which to place a decoration.



There are no detailed drawings of the medallions or correspondence concerning them, which leaves a few unanswered questions. Who made the models? Were they actually sculpted by an artist originally, or were they simply a product of a company who produces concrete molds for building ornamentation? Were they part of a 'stock' inventory of decorations that Hoggson Brothers used for their many and varied construction projects? The latter seems the most likely scenario, but

indeed, someone, somewhere had to make the models.

Inscriptions, legends, or mottos are not on the sculptures, which would confirm their description as medallions rather than coins, albeit that they are obvious renditions of Hermon MacNeil and Adolph Weinman's lovely coin designs. Some details are changed, missing, or added. On the obverse of the quarter for example, the gate opening appears a bit narrower, the stars running up the wall are fewer, and there are no details on the shield. The drapery also falls and folds differently. It is noted that Liberty's right breast is bare, mimicking McNeal's original design of 1916. This may support the idea that Hoggson Brothers had the models ten years prior to the construction of this building, and presumably used them elsewhere. Or possibly, whoever made the model simply preferred the original coin design. The reverse of the quarter depicts a slightly beefier eagle in flight, with the front wing breaking through the border, and a lone star with rays filling the upper field. On the obverse of the half dollar we see Liberty looking a bit thin and a few extra rays coming from the sun. Filling the right field is



Comparisons of the Standing Liberty Quarter and Bas-Relief medallions depicted on the First National Bank building.



what looks like a small palm plant with a cloud above. The reverse eagle is quite similar to the Weinman coin, with differences in body and head shape, and the bird stands on bare rock outcropping.



Comparisons of the Walking Liberty Half and Bas-Relief medallions depicted on the First National Bank building.



National Bank Notes

There were ten chartered National Banks that issued notes from Oshkosh over the

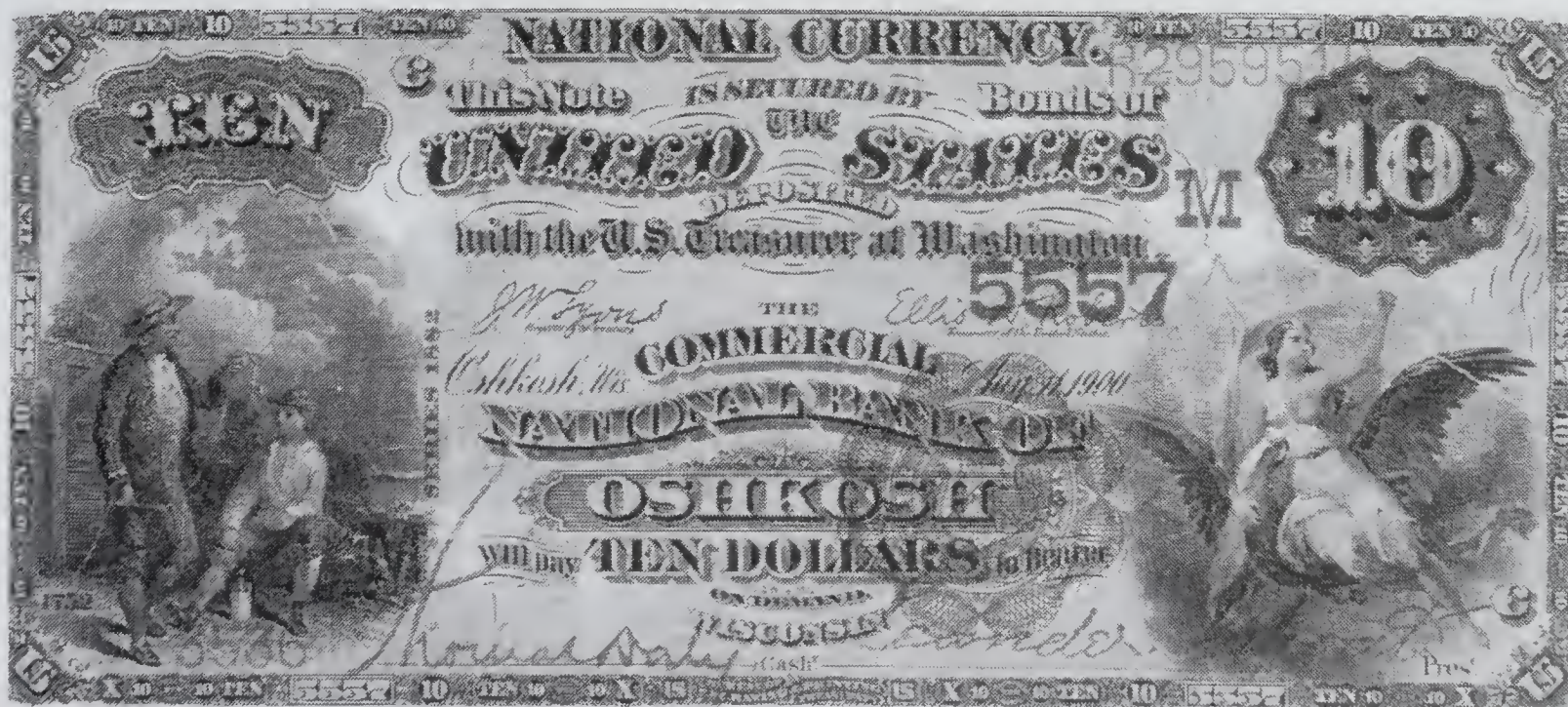
years. Six of them were related to the First National Bank through consolidation or acquisition, including; First National - charter 1864, Commercial National - charter 1865, German National - charter 1890, Old National - charter 1903, Old Commercial National - charter 1919, and finally the First National Bank in Oshkosh - charter 1925.

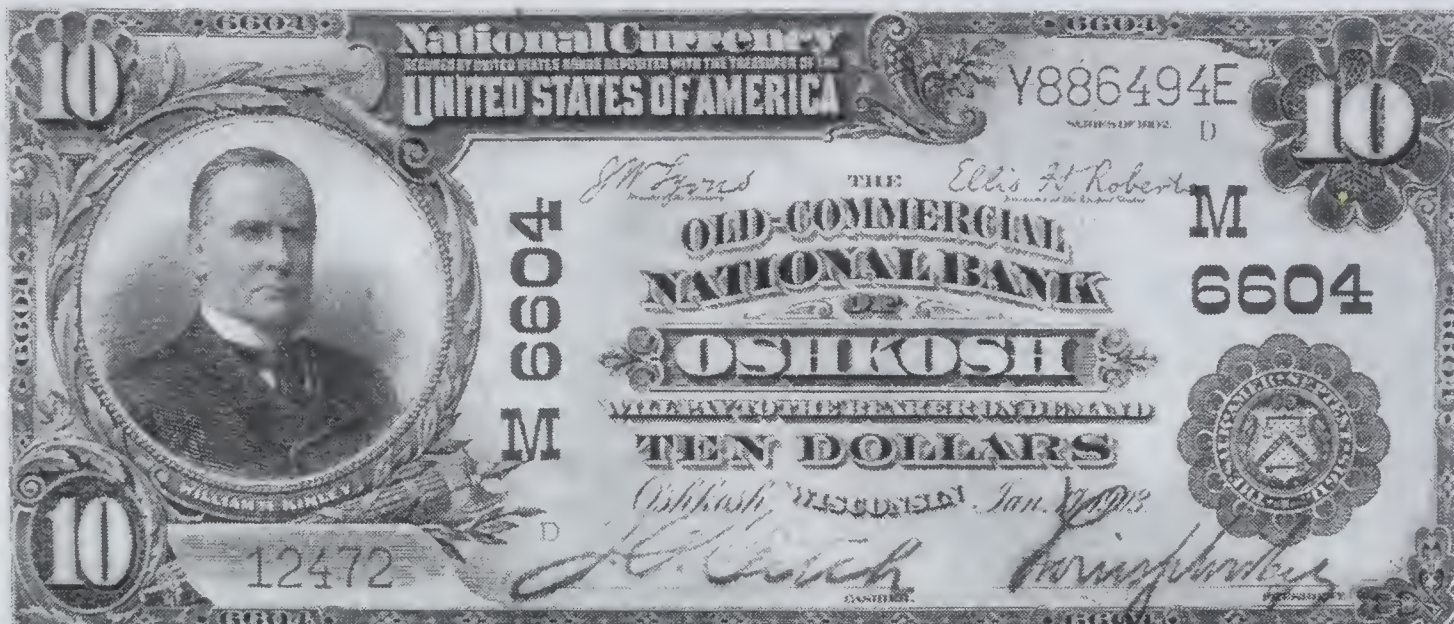
The collector would be hard pressed to put together a set of notes issued by these national banks of Oshkosh, both in terms of scarcity and cost. The notes issued by the earlier charters are extremely scarce to non-existent, with some valued in five figures. The only notes found in any quantity are those of charter 6604, and even then the survival rates appear to be rather low.

According to Matthew Janzen's book, 'Wisconsin National Bank Notes - a census of large and small national currency'; of 223,948 large notes issued under charter 6604, only 49 are known, and of 128,759 small notes issued only 161 are accounted for. It shouldn't be assumed Janzen's census is complete, however, it certainly provides evidence to the scarcity of the notes.

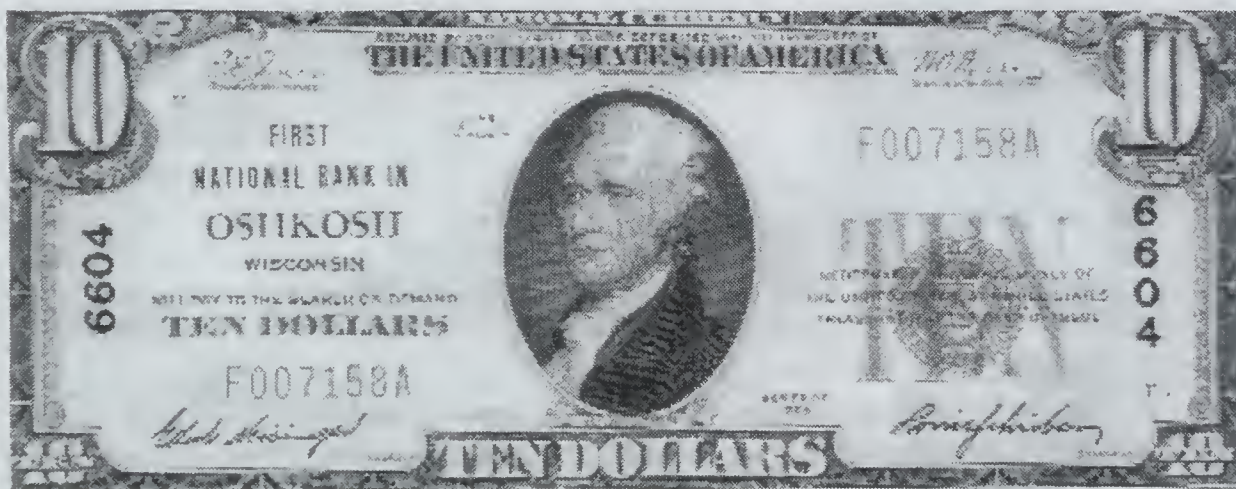
Images courtesy of Chet Krause.

Large size note of the Commercial National Bank of Oshkosh, Charter 5557, August 11, 1900.

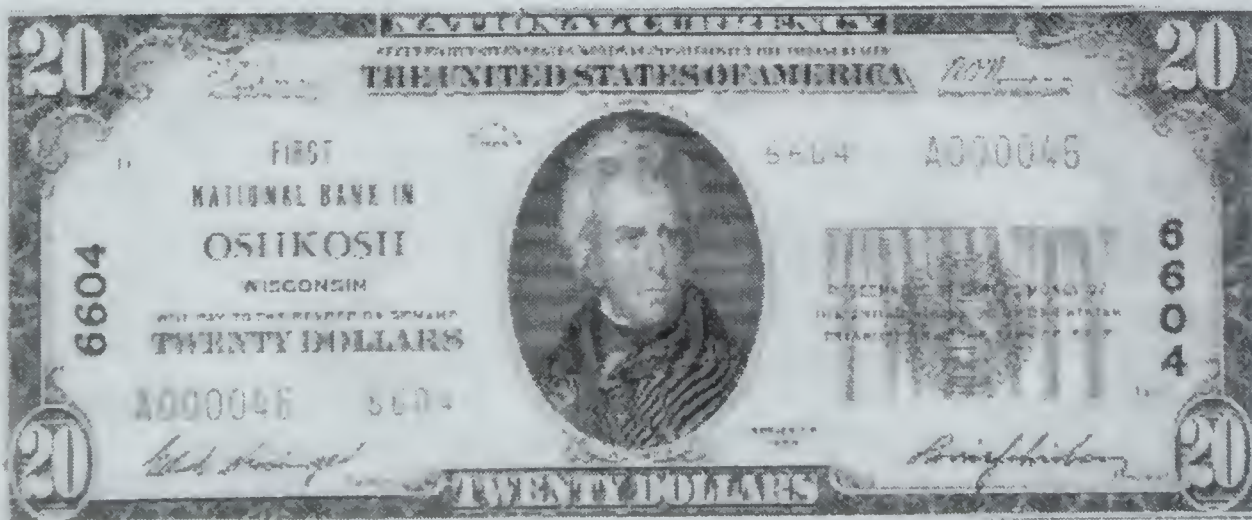




Large size note of the Old-Commercial National Bank of Oshkosh, Charter 6604, January 17, 1903



Small size note of the First National Bank in Oshkosh, Charter 6604, Series 1929 type 1.



Small size note of the First National Bank in Oshkosh, Charter 6604, Series 1929 type 2.

Other Numismatic Items of Interest

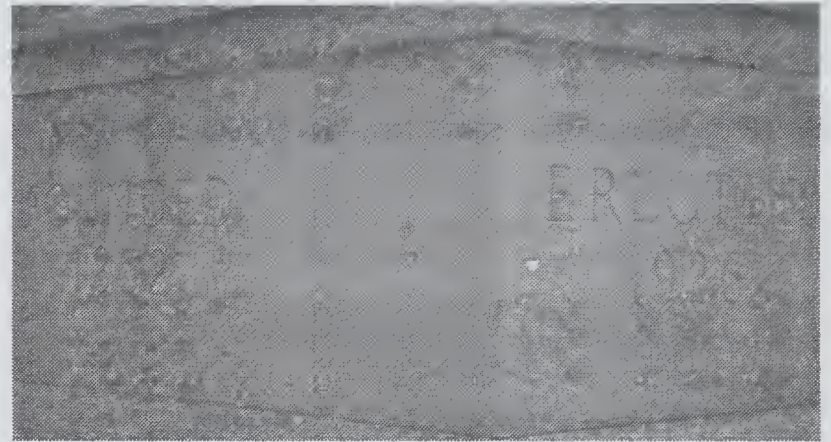
Assay Commissioners

As previously mentioned, Samuel Hay was appointed to the United States Assay Commission in 1893, but there were two other Oshkosh residents who were also selected for the honor. Prominent businessman, numismatist, and former ANA president H.O. Granberg served on the commission in 1916 and 1917. Also, former Oshkosh City councilman, Larry Spanbauer, served the commission in 1976. Larry authored the book, 'Colonial Copies, Private Mint Replicas, Modern Counterfeits of United States Coins' in 1976, and in 1980, co-authored 'Standard Catalog of United States Altered and Counterfeit Coins'. He is an expert on the subject of Oshkosh related tokens.

It's interesting to note the coins these gentlemen had the privilege of examining. Hay weighed and measured Liberty head gold in many denominations, as well as, from the previous year, the new Barber designs of the dime, quarter, and half. In addition, little did he know the Morgan dollars of 1893 that he examined would prove to be such collecting treasures today. Granberg witnessed the design revolution of 1916, bringing in the beautiful and artistic designs of the Mercury dime, Standing Liberty quarter, and Walking Liberty half. Spanbauer sat on the commission's last year of existence, and examined changes on the reverse of the Washington quarter, Kennedy half, and Eisenhower dollar to commemorate the nation's bicentennial.

Cornerstone

The cornerstone of the new 'skyscraper' was laid on July 17, 1926. Within the stone a copper box was prepared with souvenirs and items commemorating the growth of the bank and community. Financial papers, a copy of the charter, and various reports of the bank's milestones were placed in the box. A sesquicentennial commemorative half



dollar was also included. It was reported in the ODN, "Bystanders threw pennies, nickels, and dimes on top of the copper box for luck, and bank president Louis Schriber sealed the slab over it." The cornerstone, still in place, is inscribed 'Founded 1852' on Main Street and 'Erected 1926' on the Washington Boulevard Side.

Counting Machine

According to the ODN April 28, 1927; "Barrels of money in the form of pennies, nickels, dimes, quarters, and halves poured into the new bank. Customers brought in their accumulated change in the convenient 'barrel banks' that the institution distributed. They heard the bank had installed 'an almost human machine' called a COINAUDIT that sorts, counts, and wraps the coins accurately and quickly. Patrons were delighted to watch the teller empty their barrels into the hopper and see the coins come out counted and wrapped. The First National Bank was the first in the state to install the marvelous machine.

Gangsters Came to Town

In the cold early days of 2008 the stirring of rumors that a major motion picture company was scouting locations to film in Wisconsin. Oshkosh became one of them. Several historic buildings were investigated for a movie with the working title 'Public Enemies', about notorious gangsters of the 1920's and 1930's, including Bonnie and Clyde, Pretty Boy Floyd, and John Dillinger*, who is played by Johnny Depp. The First National Bank building was chosen for a bank robbery and shootout scene which took place in Sioux Falls, SD in the 1930's. Director Michael Mann, whose film credits include 'Ali', 'Heat', and 'The Insider' walked through the bank building and downtown Oshkosh and found the community a pleasure to work with. Jim Robl, whose company, Fox River Development, owns the bank building, said he had been in communication with the location scouts on and off for several months. They were talking about using the interior as well as the exterior of the bank for filming. However, some of the configurations inside the bank didn't suit the scene, (one issue being that the vault is in the lower level, a feature described previously) so it appeared they would use the exterior only. Robl said they considered filming a shot from the vestibule looking out onto Main Street. Filming in Oshkosh began in mid-April and the movie is scheduled to be released in 2009. So look for Johnny Depp to burst from the First National Bank building in a mad shootout... you just might get a glimpse of the coin sculptures behind a spray of machine gun bullets.

*In real life, John Dillinger used a far-northern Wisconsin resort as a hideout. In April of 1934, the Little Bohemia Lodge, near Manitowish Waters, served as the site of another famous shootout in which Dillinger escaped Federal agents through a back window. Months later he was gunned down in Chicago in front of the Biograph Theater on July 22, 1934.

Epilogue

The First National Bank in Oshkosh flourished into the 1960's. Then, the pioneer bank suffered the same fate as many financial institutions across America. Ironically, the very consolidation that helped the bank grow into a financial pillar of strength, ultimately contributed to dissolve its identity. The national banks in Wisconsin formed a large conglomerate known as First Wisconsin. In 1972, First Wisconsin-Oshkosh moved to a new, more modern building, leaving the iconic skyscraper behind. The history became more tangled when the bank became part of Firststar Corporation in the mid-80's, then merging with Marine Bank, and finally being swallowed by US Bancorp in the 90's.

The First National Bank building is currently utilized as office space. The first two floors are restored to their original beauty by owners Fox River Development Company, who specialize in the restoration of historic buildings. Jim Robl has been more than generous with allowing me to view and copy blueprints and documents related to the construction of the building.

[SOURCES]

Oshkosh Weekly Northwestern,

2/4/1864, 2/17/1876

Oshkosh Daily Northwestern, 8/10/1922, 9/16/25,

1/12/26, 1/16/26, 3/3/26, 3/20/26, 4/15/26, 4/17/26,
5/17/26, 7/17/26, 11/6/26, 4/21/27, 4/26/27, 4/27/27,
4/28/27

Pamphlet presumably published by the FNB,

'100th Anniversary First National Bank 1852 -1952
-no copyright or publishing information noted
- courtesy of August Tiedje of Oshkosh, WI private collection

National Bank Notes -

a guide with prices- by Don C. Kelly, 4th Edition

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a census of large and small national currency-
by Matthew A. Janzen

The Assay Medals The Assay Commissioners

1841 -1977, by Francis Pessolano- Filos

Jim Robl, Fox River Development Company,

interviews Feb/Mar 2008

continued on pg. 31

My Christmas Gold

By James Johnston, Jr.

[reprinted from the Journal of Antiques and Collectibles]

Now that I am in my 60th year, I look back to Christmas 1956. In my 12-year old glory and greed, I hankered for coins, books, stamps, raw lumber to build things with, antiques of all sorts – and gold.

Oh, electric trains, bicycles and Lincoln Logs were okay, and once I was given some modern plastic ship models I was pretty happy to have. But I come from a long line of deep-water Yankee seadogs. I wanted antique ship models (eventually I got quite a few) made of wood and fitted out with accurate rigging and sails. And I wanted gold.

I read about gold in the wonderful works of Edward Rowe Snow, a 20th-century writer of books about the sea, pirates, treasure, shipwrecks, and cursed pirate hoards. Books like his “True Tales of Buried Treasure”, “Amazing Sea Stories Never Told Before”, and “Secrets of the North Atlantic Islands” fired my imagination and made me lust after gold.

In 1956, sources of gold at Christmas time were rare. But where there is a will, greed will find a way. (I was way ahead of Wall Street’s villain Gordon Gecco, who said it right out loud: “Greed is good.” (Now that takes real courage). The very idea of gold coins made me tingle all over like the mythic English antiques dealer, Lovejoy, who felt pins and needles whenever he was near a great rarity. (This sensation was celebrated in a whole series of books about this lovable scoundrel.) At the time, I discovered that there was a policeman in town who dabbled in the coin trade on a part-time basis and actually had a gold piece for sale. I contrived to see it as soon as I could.

It was a Russian five ruble coin of the hapless Czar Nicholas II. Nicholas was kicked off the throne of Russia in March of 1917. He was

This Russian gold five ruble coin was the object of Johnston’s Christmas lust. It bares the image of the hapless Nicholas II



imprisoned all over his former empire, sent as far as Siberia with his entire family and then sent as far away as Ekaterinburg. If that was not bad enough, he was shot, clubbed, kicked, tossed in a truck, chopped up, and then thrown down a mine shaft where his remains, along with those of his family and doctor Bodkin and servant Demidovna, were burned and dissolved with acid. This act by the Bolsheviks was hateful to me, but here in front of me was an honest-to-goodness portrait of poor Nicholas II on this gold coin. It was not exactly pirate treasure, but it was gold and it had history. I alerted my parents of my Christmas wish and handed over to them the phone number of kindly Officer Carr.

They already knew him, of course. Unbeknownst to me they secured the coin. They never let on, and I sweated out the ordeal. Christmas Eve was a trial. I found it difficult to sleep. The next morning came early, and my sisters and I made enough noise to wake my folks and my grandmother. At long last we went to the living room where a mountain of gifts had materialized overnight. This was an effort on the part of my parents to spoil us rotten. What a good job they did.

There were skates, books, clothes, and a globe. But there was no gold in sight. Finally my eyes wandered over to the fireplace where my large red stocking was hung with care. I took it down and deposited the contents on the table. Something stuck in the toe of the stocking. Some careful probing

was required to remove a very small box. I opened it, and there was the hapless czar himself, Nicholas II. My heart soared. I still have the coin today.

Generally speaking, gold coins were a more common Christmas gift in the years preceding 1933, when Franklin D. Roosevelt demonetized gold as money. Coins were presented in little plush-lined boxes that were decorated in glossy red, green or white paper or with gold or silver foil. Sometimes these Christmas coin boxes would be decorated with poinsettias. More affluent youngsters were given five, ten or even \$20 dollar gold pieces.

I hope that you too, will get your gold piece from Santa this year. Merry Christmas to all and best of luck to you.

[James Johnston, Jr. holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in History and is the author of several books. He has also written more than 1,500 articles and monographs in *The Numismatist*, *Linn's Stamp News*, *The Regional Recorder*, and other publications.]

* * *

How Did the Tradition of Christmas Stockings Begin?



Each Christmas most of us hang stockings on the mantles of our fireplaces (or other places) and wait for the goodies to appear on Christmas morning. But when did this tradition begin? What do stockings and fireplaces have to do with the birth of Christ?

It All Started With A Foolish Act

The tradition of our Christmas stockings actually started with a man who squandered his fortune away. Some say it was due to depression after his wife's death. Neverthe-

less, he left his three daughters penniless and without a dowry.

Because these three women had no dowry, they would be unable to marry. After all, in those days a man didn't usually marry a woman without a dowry attached.

One night the sisters left their socks by the fireplace to dry. St. Nicholas rode by the girls' home on his horse, saw the stockings hanging and flung gold coins down the chimney. The coins landed in their stockings, becoming the very first stocking stuffers.

Today's Christmas Stockings

Today Christmas stockings are still hung by a fireplace, but they're rarely filled with gold coins. Little trinkets and small gifts are placed into the stockings and children rush to see what's been left on Christmas morning.

And while the original Christmas stockings may indeed have been wet socks drying over a fire, the Christmas stockings of modern times are much more elaborate. There are stockings of all shapes, colors, sizes and materials.

There is one thing -- I wonder what these three daughters of yester year would have thought of the Christmas stockings of today?

* * *

continued from pg. 29

Columbia University, arch.columbia.edu -14th street and Union Square preservation project/Hoggson info.

PHOTOS

The Presidents; 100th Anniversary FNB publication/August Tiedje

The Buildings; Oshkosh Daily Northwestern archives/August Tiedje/Larry Spanbauer

Bank Building /Medallions; Jeff Reichenberger 2008, John Iwata Photography 2008

Bank Notes; Chester L. Krause

Coins; coincommunity.com

* * *

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Show Information for _____ Coin Club

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Coin Club Meetings

Barron County Coin Club

Meets at 8:00 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the School Administration Bldg., 700 Augusta St., Rice Lake. Contact Barron County Coin Club, P.O. Box 256, Chetek, WI 54728.

Chippewa Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 1st Thursday of each month in the basement of Parks Rec. Bldg., 1300 1st Ave. in Eau Claire. E-mail 54701.com/coin-club or PO Box 2140 Eau Claire, WI 54702.

Elgin IL Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 1st Wednesday at the VFW Post 1307, 1601 Weld Rd., Elgin, IL 60123. Contact Don Cerny, PO Box 561, S. Elgin, IL 60177. Ph. 847-888-1449.

Fishbowl Wooden Nickel Coin Club

Meets the 3rd Thursday (April-October); at the Siren Sr. Center, 23943 State Road 35, Siren, 7:00 traders; 8:00 business meeting. Contact Gary Schauls, 2702 150th St., Luck, WI 54853-3811. Ph. 715-472-2002.

Fond du Lac Coin Club

Meets on the 2nd Tuesday (May thru Sept.) at the Senior Center East 2nd Street in Fond du Lac. Contact Fond du Lac Coin Club, PO Box 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903.

Fox Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at Prime Time Club, 11150 Valley Road, Menasha.

International Bank Note Society

Meets 12:30 Social hour; 1:00 mtg. at North Shore Library in Glendale, WI. e-mail www.mcfls.org/northshorelibrary.

Kenosha Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st Thursday of each month (except July & August) at 3030 39th Ave, Kenosha. Contact: Jerry Binsfeld 262-657-4653.

Kettle Moraine Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday of each month at Silverbrook Middle School, 120 N. Silverbrook Drive in West Bend. Youth meeting at 6:30. Contact: Dave Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

Lake County Coin Club

Meets 7:00 the 1st Tues. each month at the Warren Township Library, O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL. (Alternate mtg. place at Gurnee Police Dept., 100 N. O'Plaine Rd.. Contact: George Efsen, 847-244-5160.

Lakeland Coin & Stamp Club

Meets at 6:45 the first and third Thursday of each month at Lakeland Senior Center, Woodruff, WI.

Madison Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 on the 2nd Monday of each month in the Community Meeting Room at Zimbrick Buick, 1601 W. Beltline Hwy. at Fish Hatchery intersection. Contact Tom Galway. Phone 608-238-1722.

Manitowoc Coin Club

No regular monthly meetings. An annual coin show is held in February. Contact Al Hrudka 920-775-4979.

Milwaukee Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:00 on the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Mayfair Mall Community Room, 2500 N. Mayfair Road in Wauwatosa (use #2 entrance, east side of mall). Contact Bruce Benoit, PO Box 210064, Milwaukee, 53221. Phone: 414-282-8128. www.milwaukeeenumismaticociety.com.

Nicolet Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd & 4th Tuesday at Stein Supper Club, 126 S. Adams in Green Bay.

Northwoods Stamp & Coin Club

Contact the club at P.O. Box 126, Rhinelander, WI 54501.

Ozaukee Coin Club

Meets 2nd Thursday at Rose Harms Legion Post, 1540 13th Ave., Grafton. (Youth mtg. 6:30; General mtg. 7:00. Contact Ozaukee Coin Club, P.O. Box 832, Cedarburg, WI 53012.

Racine Numismatic Society

Meets at 7:30 on the 2nd Thursday at Castlewood Restaurant in Sturtevant (across street from Amtrack Depot). Contact George Conrad 262-634-0833. (no July or Aug. mtg).

Richland Center Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Bowling Alley. No meetings June/July/August. Contact Larry Schlafer 608-279-1182.

Rockford Area Coin Club

Contact: Rockford Area Coin Club, c/o Darrell Schultz, P.O. Box 294, Cherry Valley, IL 61016.

Sheboygan Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 every other Tuesday at Maple Lanes, 3107 S. Business Dr., in Sheboygan. Contact Sheboygan Coin Club, PO Box 907, Sheboygan, WI 53081.

South Shore Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at St. Roman's Parish Office, 1710 W. Bolivar Ave. in Milwaukee. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966. www.sscmke.org.

Waukesha Coin Club

Meets at 7:00 p.m. on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Waukesha Salvation Army offices at 445 Madison St., Waukesha. Contact Forrest Schumacher, 2300 Avalon Drive, Waukesha, WI 53186. Ph: 262-542-5990. www.waukeshacoinclub.com.

Wisconsin Valley Coin Club

Meets at 7:30 on the 1st & 3rd Tuesday of each month at Liberty Bell Coin Investments, 130 N. 3rd Ave., Wausau. (June, July, Aug. mtg 3rd Tue.) Contact Thad Streeter, 715-355-5437.

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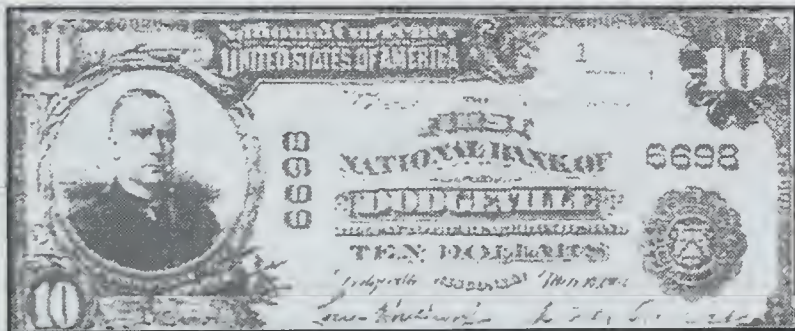
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Please send information on your upcoming show to the NOW News Editor, PO Box 155, Mazomanie, WI 53560. Include name of club, location of show, dates, hours, number of tables and your show/bourse chairman's name, address and phone.

February 1, 2009 - Eau Claire

Winter Coin Show at Holiday Inn, 2703 Craig Road, Eau Claire. 21 tables. Contact Roy Crowell. Phone 715-834-7697.

February 15, 2009 - Oshkosh

Wisconsin Coin Expos LLC 26th Annual Coin Show at Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 North Main St., Oshkosh, WI. Hours: 9-5 p.m. Contact Randy Miller, PO Box 254 Oshkosh, WI 54903. Ph: 920-231-6161.

February 22, 2009 - Franksville

Racine Numismatic Society's 71st Coin and Collectible Show at South Hills Country Club, 3047 Hwy. 94 east side of frontage road, Franksville, WI. 40 dealers. Hours: 9-3 p.m. Contact Jerry Binsfeld 262-657-4653.

March 8, 2009 - Brookfield

Waukesha Coin Show at the American Legion Post, 3245 N. 124 St. Brookfield, WI. Show contact: Tom Snyder 262-542-5990.

March 13-15, 2009 - Portland, OR

ANA's National Money Show in Portland, OR. Contact ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

March 23, 2009 - Madison

Madison Coin Show at Sheraton Hotel, 706 John Nolan Drive, Madison

March 27-29, 2009 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention, Baltimore Convention Center, 1 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD
www.whitmanexpo.com.

March 29, 2009 - Eau Claire

43rd Annual Chippewa Valley Coin Show at Holiday Inn, 2703 Craig Road, Eau Claire. 21 tables. Show contact Roy Crowell, 515 S., Barstow St, Ste. 112, Eau Claire, WI 54701. Ph. 715-834-7697.

March 29, 2009 - Gurnee IL

Lake County Coin Club's 48th Annual Coin Show at Warren Township High School, 500 North O'Plaine Rd., Gurnee, IL. Hours: 9-3 p.m. 48 tables. Bourse Chm. George Efsen 847-244-5160 (george.efsen@att.net) or LCC, P.O. Box 8519, Waukegan, IL 60079.

April 2-4, 2009 - Milwaukee

South Shore Coin Club's 45th Annual Show at Wyndham Hotel Airport, 4747 S. Howell Avenue, Milwaukee. Hours: Apr. 2, 2-7 p.m.; Apr. 3 10-6 p.m.; Apr. 4 10-4 p.m.. 70 tables. Contact Walter Weis 414-384-7966.

April 5, 2009 - Appleton

Fox Valley 54th Coin Show at Wave Bar & Ballroom, 2350 N. Casaloma Dr., Appleton, WI. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 40 tables. Show Contact: James Bayer, P.O. Box 1981, Appleton, WI 54912. Phone: 920-739-1089.

April 29-May 2, 2009 - Central States

70th Anniversary CSNS Convention at Duke Energy Center, Cincinnati OH. Contact Jerry Lebo Phone 574-753-2489.

May 3, 2009 - NOW

49th NOW Anniversary show hosted by Nicolet Coin Club at Comfort Suites/Rock Garden, 1951 Bond Street, Green Bay. Show Chm. Roger Bohn, 1345 Ponderosa Ave., Green Bay, WI 54313. Phone: 920-499-7035.

June 12-14, 2009 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention, Baltimore Convention Center, 1 S. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD.
www.whitmanexpo.com.

August 5-9, 2009 - ANA

ANA 118th World's Fair of Money at Los Angeles, CA. Contact ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

October 4, 2009 - Milwaukee

Milwaukee Numismatic Society's Annual Coin Show at the American Serb Memorial Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave., Milwaukee. Hours: 9-4 p.m. 75 tables. Show Chm. Tom Casper, tcasper57@hotmail.com and Bourse Chm. David Hunsicker 262-338-6064.

November 20-22, 2009 - Baltimore, MD

Baltimore Coin & Currency Convention, 1 W. Pratt St., Baltimore, MD. www.whitmanexpo.com.

February 21, 2010 - Oshkosh

Wisconsin Coin Expos LLC 27th Annual Coin Show at Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 North Main St., Oshkosh. Hours: 9-5 p.m. Contact Randy Miller, PO 254, Oshkosh, WI 54903. Phone: 920-231-6161.

March 14, 2010 - Brookfield

Waukesha Coin Club's annual show at the American Legion Post, 3245 N. 124th Street, Brookfield, WI. Show contact: Tom Snyder 262-542-5990.

May 21-22, 2010 - NOW

Numismatists of Wisconsin 50th anniversary show at Iola, WI.

August 11-15, 2010 - ANA

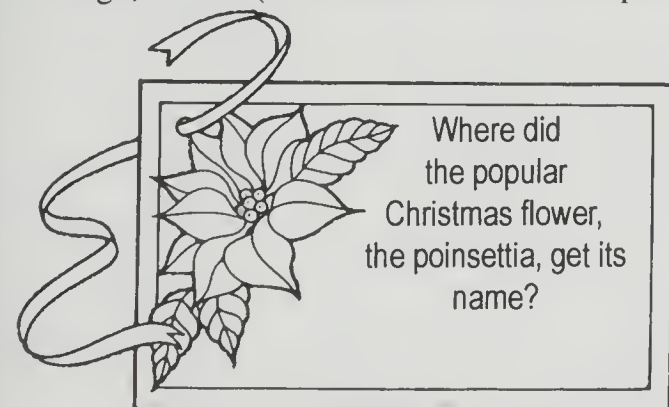
American Numismatic Assoc. World's Fair of Money at Boston, MA. Contact ANA Convention Dept. 719-632-2646.

February 20-2011 - Oshkosh

Wisconsin Coin Expos LLC 28th Annual Coin Show at Oshkosh Convention Center, 2 North Main St., Oshkosh. Hours: 9-5 pm. Contact Randy Miller, PO 254, Oshkosh, WI 5490-3. Phone: 920-231-6161.

2011 - ANA

Chicago, Illinois (rescheduled from Indianapolis, IN)



Where did
the popular
Christmas flower,
the poinsettia, get its
name?

Robert Poinsett, an American botanist and foreign ambassador brought the plant back from Mexico in the early 1800s.



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Mazomanie, WI 53560
Permit No. 3

TO:

0013 L Life

Cliff Mishler
PO Box 316
Iola, WI 54945-0316



***Don't worry about the size
of your Christmas Tree;***

***In the eyes of children,
they are all 30 feet tall.***

Larry Wilde